

REMARKS:

Claims 1-3 are in the case and presented for consideration.

Claims 1 and 2 have been amended.

For the reasons that follow, Applicants believe all of the claims are in condition for allowance.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-3 under 35 U.S.C. § 112 first paragraph, indicating that the specification, while being enabling for those particular steps as disclosed on page 3, lines 24 and 25, does not reasonably provide enablement for any type of secondary aromatic amine as claimed. Therefore, the Examiner holds that the specification does not enable a person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make any use the invention commensurate in scope with these claims. Office Action at p. 2.

In the Examiner's view, undue experimentation would be necessary for determining how to practice and use applicant's invention. *Id.* Specifically, since claims 1-3 read on any type of secondary aromatic amine such as that which is claimed while not necessarily applying the particular steps as noted on page 3 lines 24 and 25 of the specification, the quantity of experimentation necessary is deemed to be great. *Id.* at p. 3. Further, the Examiner asserts that there is an absence of *working examples* concerning the steps comprising any type of secondary aromatic amine other than those as disclosed on page 3, lines 24 and 25 of the specification.

In order to advance prosecution of the application, Applicants have amended claim 1 to reflect that *N,N'*-diaryl-1,4-phenylenediamine or *N*-alkyl-*N'*-aryl-1,4-phenylenediamine

or reaction product of diphenylamine and acetone or their mixture is employed in the claimed method.

Therefore, Applicants believe that claim 1 as well as claims 2 and 3, which depend therefrom, are enabled.

Conclusion

Accordingly, Applicants believe that all claims are now in condition for allowance and favorable action is respectfully requested. No new matter has been added. Should there be any issues that have not been addressed to the Examiner's satisfaction, Applicants invite the Examiner to contact the undersigned attorney.

If any fees are due in connection with this response, please charge such fees to Deposit Account No. 14-1431.

Respectfully submitted,

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